

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 277

By Finney R.

A RESOLUTION to commend the Jaycees, including the Tennessee Chapter, for promoting Jaycees Against Youth Smoking (JAYS).

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable organizations that have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, the United States Junior Chamber (the Jaycees), including the Tennessee Chapter of the Jaycees, is one such worthy group, which evinces the greatest integrity and probity in encouraging its belief that "Kids shouldn't smoke!"; and

WHEREAS, Jaycees contacted convenience store clerks, enlisting them to join the "We Card Program," whereby clerks were asked to restrict the sale of cigarettes only to those persons of legal age; the program was so successful that it was adopted in two years by the National Association of Convenience Stores; and

WHEREAS, on the cusp of that success, the Jaycees are now concentrating their efforts in the community, warning elementary- and middle school-aged children on the dangers of smoking; and

WHEREAS, in Tennessee, the Jaycees promote JAYS in schools, boys and girls clubs, and boy and girl scout programs, reaching more than 250,000 Tennessee children, many of whom have undoubtedly decided to become lifetime non-smokers; and

WHEREAS, the JAYS program is underwritten by an unrestricted grant from the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Corporation; and

WHEREAS, tobacco usage is a major health concern in Tennessee; children will add years to their lives and reduce healthcare costs if they are convinced to not smoke; and

WHEREAS, throughout the group's many years of exemplary service to the people of this State, the Tennessee Jaycees has distinguished itself as a public-spirited organization of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Jaycees is a civic group that is highly respected throughout the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Jaycees organization is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and its membership should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend the Tennessee Chapter of the Jaycees for its honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee with its Jaycees Against Youth Smoking (JAYS) project, and salute its outstanding efforts to reduce smoking in our state's young people.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.